


Not only, but also for climate protection reasons the European Union aims at a increasing use of renewable energies generally and especially bioenergy. The chances to achieve this aim will be better, if markets for the trade with biogenic energy sources are established. For the establishment of such markets common European or global standards are necessary. Therefore the focus of the work in the EU project “Pre-normative research on solid biofuels for improved European standards” (BioNorm 2) is directly co-ordinated with the European Standardisation Commission CEN TC 335 “Solid Biofuels”. The German Biomass Research Center (DBFZ) is coordinator of this project with 25 partners from eleven countries. The project runs 3 years (2007 – 2009).



The screenshot shows the BioNorm 2 project website. At the top, it is sponsored by the European Union. The main heading is "Pre-normative research on solid biofuels for improved European standards" with project number 038644. A navigation menu on the left includes News, Background, Partners, Publications, Contact, Key Data, and Members Only. The main content area contains a paragraph about the need for standards and a list of two bullet points: "specifications given by the combustion unit, and" and "rules for conformity of the products with their specified requirements." Below this is a large image of a biofuel pellet with the BioNorm logo overlaid. At the bottom, it states the project is funded by the European Commission - VIth Framework Programme and includes a quote from Marc Aurel: "Always keep in mind, that nothing remains as it is, and mention, that nature changes permanently."

As coordinator of the project the IE is responsible for the design and updating of the project website, which is used as central instrument of internal and external communication.

www.bionorm2.eu

Background

The energetic use of solid biomasses increased significantly in the past years. This positive development causes – partially already today – local bottlenecks regarding the biogenic materials. These bottlenecks will have to be adjusted in the future. Therefore supraregional and/or international markets for biofuels will have to be developed – supported by the development of standards. Besides this, standards for biofuels also make the optimisation of the combustion plant possible and hence increase the competitiveness of biofuels compared to fossile fuels both under ecological and economic aspects.

Objectives and Work Packages

In four work packages (WP I - IV) of the BioNorm 2 project fuel characteristics of solid biofuels and also methods to test and verify them will be developed.

- WP I: Sampling, sample reduction and planning
- WP II: Chemical and physical testing procedures
- WP III: Quality measures
- WP IV: Specifications of biofuels

Tasks of the DBFZ

Apart from the scientific and administrative coordination of the 25 project partners the DBFZ is responsibly involved in the development of a quality management system for solid biofuels. This includes besides the quality assurance and quality control also and in particular the quality planning and quality improvement as well as the strategic field of quality politics.

Approach and Results

For the development of a quality management system for solid biofuels the results of the work packages I, II and IV are of great importance, since they have influence on the arrangement of a quality management system which can be implemented as simply as possible.

Hereby the development of a suitable process management, which unites the product related with the process related requirements (quality planning), is of high priority. With effective and meaningful process modifications an adapted procedure for the examination of the fuel parameters can be developed, in which an advantageous cost-benefit ratio – both for consumers and producers – is incorporated (quality improvement).

Finally a guideline is to be developed, which shows what has to be considered in the subsequent steps of fuel production and supply to ensure the quality requirements of the final product. Additionally it is to be demonstrated, how these aspects can be implemented as efficiently as possible into an existing quality management system.

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